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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT(S): Tani *et al.*  
SERIAL NO.: 09/423,905 GROUP NO.: 1645  
FILING DATE: March 19, 1999 EXAMINER: P. Duffy, Ph.D.  
TITLE: Therapeutic Agent for Preventing and/or Treating Sepsis

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 15, 2004, for the above-referenced patent application. A petition and fee for a one-month extension of time for response, up to and including November 15, 2004, are enclosed. If any further petition or fee is required, please consider this a conditional petition therefor and authorization to charge deposit account 20-0531.